

Lincoln, Nebraska  
February 7, 2025

The Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska met on February 7, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. in the Boardroom at Varner Hall, 3835 Holdrege Street, Lincoln, Nebraska, and by remote electronic means pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411, in a publicly convened session, the same being open to the public and having been preceded by advanced publicized notice, a copy of which is attached to the minutes of this meeting as Attachment 1 (page 8).

In compliance with the provisions of Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411, printed notice of this meeting was sent to each member of the Board and was posted in the first-floor lobby of Varner Hall. In addition, copies of such notice were sent to the Lincoln Journal Star, Omaha World-Herald, The Daily Nebraskan, the Gateway, the Antelope, the Kearney Hub, and the Lincoln office of the Associated Press on January 31, 2025.

Regents present:

Timothy Clare  
Paul Kenney, Vice Chair, (joined via Videoconference)  
Elizabeth O'Connor (joined at 9:04 a.m.)  
Robert Schafer, Chair  
Jim Scheer  
Jack Stark  
Barbara Weitz  
Kathy Wilmot  
Sam Schroeder, University of Nebraska at Kearney  
Elizabeth Herbin, University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
Pranita Devaraju, University of Nebraska Medical Center (joined via Videoconference at 11:15 a.m.)  
Ishani Adidam, University of Nebraska at Omaha

University officials present:

Jeffrey P. Gold, President  
David Jackson, Interim Executive Vice President and Provost  
Katie Hoffman, Corporation Secretary  
Charles Bicek, Interim Chancellor University of Nebraska at Kearney  
Rodney D. Bennett, Chancellor, University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
Dele H. Davies, Interim Chancellor, University of Nebraska Medical Center  
Joanne Li, Chancellor, University of Nebraska at Omaha  
Michael J. Boehm, Vice President for Agriculture and Natural Resources  
Anne Barnes, Interim Vice President and Chief Financial Officer  
Bren Chambers, Interim Vice President and General Counsel  
Chris Kratochvil, Interim Vice President for External Relations

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**II. ROLL CALL**

The Board convened at 9:00 a.m. Attendance is indicated above.

Chair Schafer announced the location of the Open Meetings Act in the Boardroom.

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND RATIFICATION OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON DECEMBER 6, 2024**

Motion Moved by Stark and seconded by Weitz to approve the minutes and ratify the actions of the meetings on December 6, 2024.

Action Student Opinion: Voting Aye: Herbin, Schroeder, and Adidam. Voting Aye: Kenney, Schafer, Scheer, Stark, Weitz, Wilmot, and Clare. Motion carried.

**IV. PRESENTATIONS**

Senator John Arch, Speaker of the Legislature, shared an update on the 2025 Legislative Session.

Major General Craig W. Strong, Adjutant General for the Nebraska National Guard, shared some updates on the Nebraska National Guard.

**V. KUDOS**

**Regent Schroeder presented a KUDOS award to Alex Straatmann**, Chief Compliance Officer at the University of Nebraska at Kearney.

**Regent Herbin presented a KUDOS award to Sheila Stewart**, who joined via videoconference, Senior Financial Accountant at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

**Regent Weitz presented a KUDOS award to Debbie Vidlak**, Research Project Coordinator lead in the Fred & Pamela Buffett Cancer Center Clinical Trials Office at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

**Regent Adidam presented a KUDOS award to Sophia Potter**, Project Manager in the Office of Research and Creative Activity at the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

**VI. RESOLUTIONS**

Regent Stark Presented the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, the University of Nebraska Board of Regents approved in August 2024 the Program Statement for Project Health, a new \$2.19 billion healthcare facility at the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) that will serve as a clinical training center to train and educate the next generation of healthcare providers, conduct research and offer clinical trials, and

**WHEREAS**, the Nebraska Medicine Board has approved a resolution demonstrating its support of Project Health by making a financial commitment of \$575 million, and

**WHEREAS**, the Nebraska philanthropic community has recognized the significant need for the construction of Project Health and values the overwhelming impact this facility will have on the state's generations to come, has committed over \$450 million, and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Regents desires to express its support by making a substantial financial commitment to Project Health.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, Be It Resolved, that the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska commit \$250 million, comprised of \$150 million from the University of Nebraska System and \$100 million from UNMC, to the construction of Project Health Phase I, Building the Healthiest Nebraska, of Project NExT.

Resolution Adopted      There being no objection, the above resolution was approved and adopted by the general consent of the Board.

**VII.                    HEARINGS**  
None

**VIII.                  PRESIDENT’S REMARKS**

President Gold shared an update on the University, the current budget situation with the state, highlighting upon the economic impact report and reiterating the importance of working together as partners. He introduced a new strategic planning structure, providing five pillars that will guide the plan.

**IX.                    PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**X.                     UNIVERSITY CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion                    Moved by Clare and seconded by Weitz to approve all Consent items.

**A.    ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

X-A-1                    University of Nebraska System  
President’s Personnel Recommendations

Action                    Student Opinion: Voting Aye: Herbin, Schroeder, and Adidam. Voting Aye: O’Connor, Schafer, Scheer, Stark, Weitz, Wilmot, Clare, Kenney. Motion carried.

**XI.                    UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA**

**A.    ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

Motion                    Moved by Weitz, seconded by Scheer to approve item XI-A-2.

XI-A-2                    Approve elimination of the Master of Science (MS) degree in Architecture, with and without the specialization in Interior Design from the College of Architecture at the University of Nebraska – Lincoln (UNL).

Action                    Student Opinion: Voting Aye: Schroeder, Adidam, and Herbin. Voting Aye: Schafer, Scheer, Stark, Weitz, Wilmot, Clare, Kenney, and O’Connor. Motion carried.

- Motion Moved by Stark and seconded by Schroeder to approve item XI-A-3.
- XI-A-3 Approve elimination of the Nebraska Books Arts Center at the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO).
- Action Student Opinion: Voting Aye: Adidam, Herbin, Schroeder. Voting Aye: Scheer, Stark, Weitz, Wilmot, Clare, Kenney, O'Connor, and Schafer. Motion carried.

**B. BUSINESS AND FINANCE**

- Motion Moved by Scheer and seconded by Stark to approve item XI-B-1.
- XI-B-1 Approve and authorize an agreement with Aramark for concessions at UNL athletic facilities.
- Action Student Opinion: Voting Aye: Herbin, Schroeder, and Adidam. Voting Aye: Stark, Weitz, Kenney, O'Connor, Schafer, and Scheer. Voting Nay: Wilmot. Abstaining: Clare. Motion carried.
- Motion Moved by Scheer and seconded by Schroeder to approve item XI-B-2.
- XI-B-2 Approve and authorize amendment to Lincoln Ball Park (NEBCO) joint operating agreement.
- Action Student Opinion: Voting Aye: Herbin, Schroeder, and Adidam. Voting Aye: Weitz, Wilmot, Clare, Kenney, O'Connor, Schafer, Scheer, and Stark. Motion carried.
- Motion Moved by Wilmot and seconded by Schroeder to approve item XI-B-3.
- XI-B-3 Approve addendum to Silverhawk agreement.
- Action Student Opinion: Voting Aye: Schroeder, Adidam, and Herbin. Voting Aye: Wilmot, Clare, Kenney, O'Connor, Schafer, Scheer, Stark, and Weitz. Motion carried.
- Motion Moved by Scheer and seconded by Wilmot to approve item XI-B-4.
- XI-B-4 Approve adding enabling work to Phase I - Infrastructure Phase of Memorial Stadium Project.
- Action Student Opinion: Voting Aye: Adidam, Herbin, and Schroeder. Voting Aye: Clare, Kenney, O'Connor, Schafer, Scheer, Stark, Weitz, and Wilmot. Motion carried.
- Motion Moved by Weitz and seconded by Stark to approve item XI-B-5.
- XI-B-5 Approve UNMC Campus Utility and Public Safety Infrastructure Project.
- Action Student Opinion: Voting Aye: Herbin, Schroeder, and Adidam. Voting Aye: Kenney, O'Connor, Schafer, Scheer, Stark, Weitz, Wilmot, and Clare. Motion carried.

**C. EXECUTIVE**

- Motion Moved by Clare and seconded by Wilmot to approve item XI-C-1.
- XI-C-1 Award of Regent Emeritus to Dr. Jim McClurg.
- Action Student Opinion: Voting Aye: Herbin, Schroeder, and Adidam. Voting Aye: O'Connor, Schafer, Scheer, Stark, Weitz, Wilmot, Clare, and Kenney. Motion carried.
- Motion Moved by Stark and seconded by Wilmot to approve item XI-C-2.
- XI-C-2 Approve appointment of Anne Barnes to serve on the Aksarben Future Trust Board of Directors.
- Action. Student Opinion: Voting Aye: Schroeder, Adidam, and Herbin. Voting Aye: Schafer, Scheer, Stark, Weitz, Wilmot, Clare, Kenney, and O'Connor. Motion carried.
- Motion Moved by Schroeder and seconded by Herbin to approve item XI-C-3.
- XI-C-3 Approve Amendment to Board of Regents Policy RP 5.9 relating to Student Fees.
- Action Student Opinion: Voting Aye: Adidam, Herbin, and Schroeder. Voting Aye: Scheer, Stark, Weitz, Clare, Kenney, O'Connor, and Schafer. Voting Nay: Wilmot. Motion carried.

**D. FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

- XI-D-1 Update to Section 1.1 of the Bylaws of the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska.
- XI-D-2 Update to Section 3.4.3.4 of the Bylaws of the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska and Update to Section 3.3.13 of the Board of Regents Policy.

**E. REPORTS**

- XI-E-1 Proposal to establish an expedited Graduate Certificate in the Internet of Things to be administered by the School of Computing in the College of Engineering at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL).
- XI-E-2 Proposal to rename the Undergraduate Major in Graphic Design to the Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Graphic Arts at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL).
- XI-E-3 Dual degree offering between the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) College of Dentistry DDS Program and the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO) College of Business Administration (MBA) Program.
- XI-E-4 Annual Tenure Density Report.
- XI-E-5 Report on Campus Tuition Variances.
- XI-E-6 Four Year Graduation Rate Report.

- XI-E-7 Third Quarter Personnel Reports.
- XI-E-8 Supplemental Emeritus Appointments.
- XI-E-9 Naming of a classroom located in Andrews Hall at University of Nebraska Lincoln (UNL).
- XI-E-10 Budget Category Reallocation for the Memorial Stadium Improvement Project.
- XI-E-11 Capital Improvements Reserve Use Summary.
- XI-E-12 Bids and contracts.
- XI-E-13 Quarterly Gifts, grants, contracts, bequests.
- XI-E-14 Strategic Planning Process Update: Identification of key Strategic Pillars.

Chair Schafer accepted the reports on behalf of the Board.

The Board recessed at 11:15 a.m. to go into closed session upon return.

## **XII. CLOSED SESSION**

Motion Moved by Scheer and seconded by Stark that the Board go into closed session as authorized by Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1410 of the Revised Statutes of Nebraska for the protection of the public interest, and to prevent needless injury to the reputation of persons who have not requested a public hearing, for the purpose of holding a discussion limited to the following subjects:

- Honorary Degrees and Awards

Action Student Opinion: Voting Aye: Herbin, Schroeder, and Adidam. Voting Aye: Stark, Weitz, Wilmot, Clare, Kenney, O'Connor, Schafer, and Scheer. Motion carried.

Chair Schafer declared that the closed session would be strictly limited to a discussion of:

- Honorary Degrees and Awards

The Board went into closed session at 11:25 a.m.

The Board reconvened the open meeting at 11:53 a.m.

Motion Moved by Scheer and seconded by Schroeder to approve item XI-A-1 as amended.

XI-A-1 Approval to award Honorary Degrees and Awards.

Action Student Opinion: Voting Aye: Herbin, Schroeder, Adidam, and Devaraju. Voting Aye: Weitz, Wilmot, Clare, Kenney, O'Connor, Schafer, Scheer, and Stark. Motion carried.

**XII. SUCCESSION OF CHAIR; ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR**

Regent Schafer thanked his colleagues for their support during his 2024 term as Chair.

Regent Kenney succeeded as Chair of the Board as defined in Section 1.2 of the *Standing Rules of the Board of Regents*.

Motion Moved by Regent O'Connor to nominate Regent Weitz for the position of Vice Chair of the Board.

Moved by Regent Schafer to nominate Regent Scheer for the position of Vice Chair of the Board.

Moved by Regent Wilmot and seconded by Regent Stark to close nominations.

Action Student Opinion: Voting Aye: Schroeder, Adidam, Devaraju, and Herbin. Voting Aye: Wilmot, Clare, Kenney, O'Connor, Schafer, Scheer, Stark, and Weitz. Motion carried.

There being no further nominations, Regent Schafer declared the nominations period closed.

Motion A secret ballot was taken with Regent Kenney providing his vote via email to Corporation Secretary Hoffman as previously arranged. Corporation Secretary Hoffman announced that Regent Scheer received five votes and Regent Weitz received three votes. The position of the non-voting Student Regents was recorded as three votes for Regent Weitz and one abstention.

Former Chair Schafer announced Regent Scheer as Vice Chair.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Chair Kenney at 12:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Katie Hoffman  
Corporation Secretary

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Paul Kenney  
Chair of the Board



### NOTICE OF MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska will meet in a publicly convened session on Friday, February 7, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in the Boardroom at Varner Hall, 3835 Holdrege Street, Lincoln, Nebraska, and by remote electronic means pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411. Internet stream is available at <https://nebraska.edu>.

An agenda of subjects to be considered at said meeting, kept on a continually current basis is available for inspection in the Office of the Corporation Secretary of the Board of Regents at Varner Hall, 3835 Holdrege Street, Lincoln, Nebraska and at <https://nebraska.edu/regents/agendas-minutes>.

Any member of the public wishing to speak via remote participation during the Public Comment portion of the meeting must contact the Office of the Corporation Secretary no less than 24 hours prior to the commencement of the meeting. The public may so contact the Office of the Corporation Secretary by leaving a voice mail message with his/her name and phone number at which he/she can be reached at 402-472-3906 or by e-mailing the same information to [corpsec@nebraska.edu](mailto:corpsec@nebraska.edu). Upon receipt of such notice, the Office of the Corporation Secretary will provide instruction on remote participation in this public meeting.

A copy of this notice will be delivered to the Lincoln Journal Star, the Omaha World-Herald, The Daily Nebraskan, the Gateway, the Antelope, the Kearney Hub, the Lincoln office of the Associated Press, members of the Board of Regents, and the President's Council of the University of Nebraska System.

Dated: January 31, 2025

Katie Hoffman, Corporation Secretary  
Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska



Office of the Corporation Secretary  
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